

REMARKS

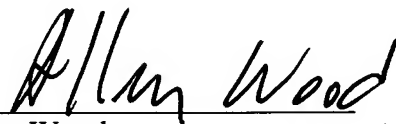
The Office Action of October 14, 2008 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

The Office Action rejects most of the claims, but only "objects" to dependent claims 5 and 23. The Office Action advises that these claims would be allowable if they are rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, in order to secure a patent without further prosecution, the present Amendment cancels claims 3-5 and transfers their subject matter to claim 1. Claim 1 thus now corresponds to claim 5 rewritten in independent form. The present Amendment also cancels claims 21 and 23, and transfers their subject matter to independent claim 20. As a result, claim 20 now corresponds to claim 23 rewritten in independent form.

In view of the claim revisions summarized above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 20 are now in condition for immediate allowance. Since the remaining claims depend from these independent claims and recite additional limitations to further define the invention, they are automatically patentable along with their independent claims and need not be further discussed.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that these application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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